



Household Products Collection Center

2009 Activity Update



We Have Been Here 10 Years

- Americans generate 1.6 million tons of HHW per year.
- The average home can accumulate as much as 100 pounds of HHW in the basement and garage and in storage closets.
- Tempe residents average 71 pounds of HHW per visit.

Earth Day 1999 was the inaugural opening of Tempe's Household Products Collection Center (HPCC), making it the first permanent facility in the valley. Over these last ten years, the HPCC has continued to lead the valley in innovative ideas increasing cost savings to Tempe's residents.

This year the HPCC moved back home to the Public Works Department, increasing service, opportunity and outreach for Tempe residents. Renewing partnerships with the Solid Waste and Recycling

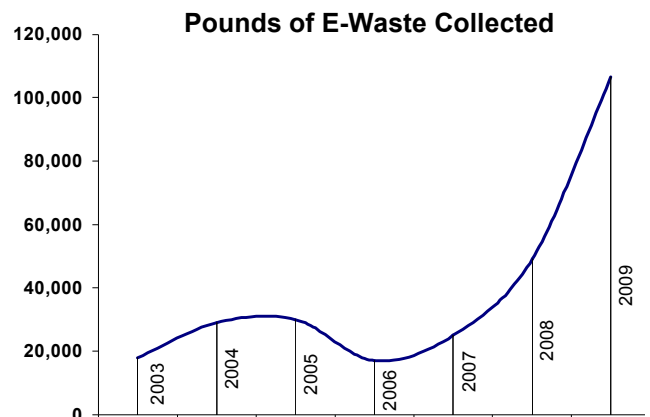
Work Groups increases the opportunity to meet residents' needs in sustainable environmental stewardship programs and increase safety throughout the City for employees who handle Household and Hazardous Waste.

The HPCC continues to be a "jewel in the desert" that provides residents with a place to properly dispose of household hazardous wastes (HHW), instead of pouring HHW down the drain, on the ground, into storm sewers, or putting them out with the trash. The dangers of such disposal methods might not be immediately obvious, but improper disposal of these wastes can pollute the environment and pose a very real threat to human health.

New Waste, New Opportunity

It is hard to believe the microprocessor was introduced as a commercial product by Intel Corporation in 1971. When the HPCC opened in 1999 there was virtually no concern or talk of proper disposal of electronic waste. In fact, only a few random televisions or cassette players were received that first year and not much was really collected until 2003. The personal computer, laptops and personal electronics devices like MP3 players or high tech, touch screen cellular telephones were years from invention. As personal electronics become more available and with technology changing almost daily the end result has been staggering. This year over **53 tons** of electronic waste (e-waste) was collected, doubling last years total and surpassing 2003 by six times that amount.

There are 5 lbs of lead in a 27" television and 2 lbs of lead in a 17" monitor. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) says consumer electronics account for less than 4% of the nation's municipal solid waste, but account for approximately 40% of the lead in landfills. EPA estimates 2-billion pieces of electronic equipment or about 25 items per household are currently owned in the US.



2009 – Weights, Most Ever

Leftover household products contain corrosive, toxic, ignitable, or reactive ingredients that in industry would be considered and disposed of as hazardous waste. These materials like their industrial counterparts pose significant risks to the environment, animals and people.



Here in the desert our biggest concern of improperly disposing HHW involves our most precious resource, water. By using the HPCC, Tempe residents are good stewards of their urban lakes, which can be polluted through storm water runoff, contaminated by spills or improperly used materials, wastewater that is contaminated by pouring unused chemicals down the drain and ground water contamination that occurs through illegal disposal.

Waste material received at the HPCC is sorted and packaged by staff, which keeps operating cost down. The cost per vehicle for HPCC operations is \$34.00; the national average per vehicle is \$50.00. This year the HPCC took in a record **147 tons** of HHW from a record **4,144 visitors** in only 539 hours of operation.

Waste	2009	2008	2007
Automotive Fluids	12.5 Tons	10 Tons	10 Tons
Batteries	7 Tons	7 Tons	6 Tons
Corrosive Materials	2.3 Tons	2.5 Tons	2 Tons
Electronic Waste	53 Tons	24.5 Tons	12.5 Tons
Environmental Hazardous Substances	8.0 Tons	9.5 Tons	6 Tons
Flammable Materials	16 Tons	15.5 Tons	13.5 Tons
Toxic Materials	5 Tons	5 Tons	3.5 Tons

Individual Weights

Waste	2009	2008	2007
Asbestos	500 lbs	200 lbs	0
Flammable Gas Cylinders	3,200 lbs	800 lbs	400 lbs
Flammable Solids	106 lbs	185 lbs	55 lbs
Isocyanates/Polyamines	746 lbs	125 lbs	104 lbs
Mercury	99 lbs	62 lbs	38 lbs
Methylene Chloride	885 lbs	854 lbs	994 lbs
Printer Cartridges	416 lbs	148 lbs	0

Triumphs and the Future



Partnerships

2009 was the first joint venture between the Solid Waste/Recycling Group and the HPCC. The Recycling Marathon was a huge success with 196 residents participating in the six-hour event.

2.3 tons of paper, 4 tons of ewaste, 125 pairs of shoes and 57.5 pounds of plastic grocery bags were collected. Future events are planned in April and October.

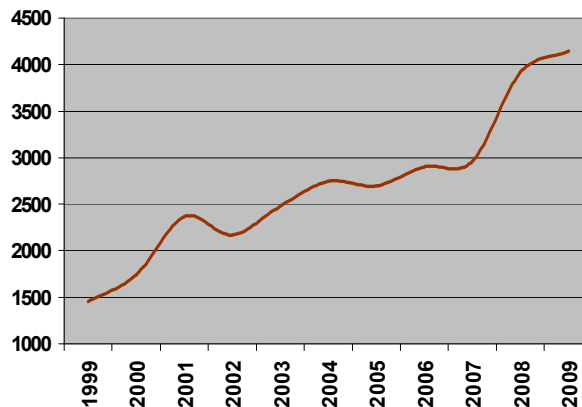
Giving Back

The HPCC took in 39 tons of latex paint. Most of this paint is sorted, mixed, high pressure filtered and pumped into five-gallon containers that are given free of charge to residents and community groups.

The HPCC also helps keep operating cost's down for Public Works by providing paint for graffiti control. Over 190 five-gallon containers of latex paint where provided at an estimated cost savings of **\$10,000**.



Visitors



The Future

The staff of the HPCC is excited to continue managing the HPCC and the City of Tempe's hazardous waste programs. This includes continuing to provide support to the Tempe Police and Fire Departments and ensuring the Public Works Department is compliant with safety and storm water regulations.

The HPCC is researching the feasibility of extending service to residents through the development of a drop site for HHW at Kiwanis Park. Additional collection events like the Recycling Marathon and educational outreach are also planned. The HPCC is developing a partnership for a plastic bag drop site with representatives of Bag Central Station.

The HPCC is now a permanent neighborhood recycling and Nike® shoe drop site, both of which are open to the public seven-days a week. By pursuing and developing these partnerships, the HPCC will continue to provide efficient, cost effective and sustainable service to our residents.